

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 735

By Johnson P

A RESOLUTION to commend Gary Norwood for his honorable and astute service as the mayor of Ashland City.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Gary Norwood is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Norwood became an employee of the city's sewer treatment plant in 1975. He later became the public works director for the City, in which position he served until he was elected mayor in 1999; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary twelve-year tenure as the mayor of Ashland City, Mr. Norwood has distinguished himself as a public official of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, as his third four-year term of office draws to a close, Mayor Norwood has announced he will not seek a fourth term and will retire from the office of mayor; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Norwood's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, many fine accomplishments have been realized under his watch, including major progress on the downtown renovation project, the completion of the Tennessee Waltz Parkway, the construction of the county's second fire department building, the renovation of the water and sewage treatment plants, an expansion of the senior citizen center, and the purchase of the public works building; and

WHEREAS, Gary Norwood led his city through the disastrous May 2010 flood and its resulting recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, challenging as it may have been, Mayor Norwood met and exceeded all expectations of his duties during this natural disaster, and for this he was chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Phoenix Award, given by the United States Small Business Administration for Outstanding Contributions to Disaster Recovery; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement, he will first enjoy a long vacation and then turn his full attention to his full-time job with Crown Castle, employment that he has maintained throughout his mayoral tenure; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Gary Norwood, who use their considerable talents and skills to serve the public in leadership roles; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mayor Norwood for his many contribution to the good people of Ashland City, his unwavering commitment to others, and his astute leadership in routine daily municipal operations as well as during extraordinary times of historic proportion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Gary Norwood for his honorable and astute service as mayor of Ashland City. We salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, and we extend to him all good wishes for an enjoyable and relaxing retirement when he steps away from public service later this year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.